

High Fidelity Information You Can Rely On

July 19, 2019

Direct Investment in Sea Control: Mine Warfare (MIW) Warfare Tactics Instructor (WTI) Program

"SMWDC is driving a culture of excellence in the Surface Force by deliberately developing tactical excellence, and for the first time, we are extending this initiative into mine warfare through the WTI program. This cadre of top tacticians will create improved doctrine and tactics, techniques and procedures, seamlessly integrate with our partners and allies in all areas of operations, maintain open sea lines of communication for commerce or amphibious landings, and leverage new systems and sensors that support sea control. In Great Power Competition, MIW WTIs will join the rest of the WTI cadre to ensure we are ready to fight and win if called upon."

- Rear Adm. Scott Robertson, SMWDC Commander

The Mine Warfare (MIW) Warfare Tactics Instructor (WTI) Program will join three existing WTI courses of instruction – Amphibious Warfare (AMW), Anti-Submarine / Surface Warfare (ASW/SUW), and Integrated Air and Missile Defense (IAMD) in August 2019.

The Deliberate Development of Tactical Proficiency

- The MIW WTI syllabus includes the WTI baseline course, MIW Staff Officer, NATO Principle Warfare Officer Naval Mine Warfare, MIW Triad Integration, NATO Staff Officer Naval Mine Warfare, AMW immersion, and MIW WTI Capstone.
- The MIW WTI program consists of a 32-week syllabus, with the majority of training (21 weeks) conducted at the NATO Naval Mine Warfare School in Belgium.
- MIW WTIs will receive familiarization and training in Aviation Mine Countermeasures (AMCM) and Underwater Mine Countermeasures (UMCM) capabilities in San Diego and Norfolk to increase their tactical acumen and planning proficiency.
- MIW WTIs will train at SMWDC's AMW Division to understand linkages in planning and execution of AMW and MIW operations in order to exploit Expeditionary Mine Countermeasures (EXMCM) and Mine Countermeasure capabilities in theater.

Career Path Information

- MIW WTI aligns with the existing SWO career path and milestones, and does not lock MIW WTIs into serving on a particular platform.
- Platform diversity in large surface combatants is valued within the community, and MIW WTIs will be poised to provide added warfighting capability in any platform on which they serve.
- The first five MIW WTI candidates selected for the inaugural course of instruction will complete a 32-week program beginning in August 2019, before assignment to readiness production tours in key billets throughout the Fleet.

Key Messages

- WTIs are a cadre of Surface Warfare Officers who build warfighting expertise in warships and Warfare Commanders' staffs.
- WTIs enable Surface Warriors to fight and win across the spectrum of high-end operations.
- MIW WTIs' tactical expertise will support operational and strategic value through the maintenance of Sea Control in an era of great power competition.

Facts & Figures

- More than 300 SWOs earned qualification as WTIs since the program's inception.
- The first five MIW WTI students will begin the inaugural course of instruction in August 2019.
- The 32-week MIW WTI curriculum includes training in San Diego, Belgium, Norfolk, and Little Creek.
- Interested SWOs can contact <u>SWO_WTI@Navy.mil</u> for more information about the program.